

Fire damage to the Administration Building was confined to the third floor, although the first and second floors sustained significant smoke and water damage. At the north (left) end of the building, the science labs sustained no fire damage, but exten-

sive smoke and water damage. Some faculty offices and classrooms near the tower were less damaged than originally believed, but south (right) of the tower, destruction was almost complete.

Bryan digs out from Ad Building rubble

Four modular classroom/office buildings are set up on the Rudd Chapel parking lot and the sounds of heavy equipment are heard over the hill as Bryan College begins the task of rebuilding from the disastrous Administration Building fire of Feb. 6.

The 24 faculty members whose offices were located in the Ad Building have temporary quarters, and decisions still are being made on housing college administrators. Right now, though, Brock Hall is serving as the administrative headquarters.

The mail room has its temporary quarters, complete with mailboxes moved from their home on the second floor, in one of the storage rooms on the first floor of the Student Life Center. Counselor Melody Benson is working out of her home on Faculty Circle.

But while there may be an air of controlled tension, Bryan President Dr. William E. Brown is pleased with the way the college community has bounced back from the fire.

"Our primary concern was to find classroom space and office space for the faculty so the instructional program would have as little interruption as possible," he said.

"Our people have been wonderful! Faculty have been sharing office space with their dislocated colleagues; staff members have put up with the inconvenience of being jammed into one large room.

"Our students have been great, pitching in to help wherever they can and adjusting to the inconvenience of finding new classrooms and chasing down professors in new places."

While the business of educating students goes on, the business of restoring the Administration Building is just getting under way.

Even before the task of clearing the building began, Dr. Martin Hartzell was able to enter the science lab area of the third floor and found the labs, his office, and that of Dr. Brian Hill, undamaged by fire. Smoke and water damage was significant, however.

On Thursday, faculty, staff, and some 120 student workers began the task — completed early this week — of emptying the Administration Building. Office contents were sorted into trash to be discarded and wet or dry material to be saved.

The "to be saved" material was packed in boxes and transferred to tractor-trailer trailers for storage and processing.

And on Friday, work began to clean debris from the third floor. It was then that several miracles were discovered. Dr. Phil Lestmann found his office untouched by fire and water — just smoke damage.

Offices of Dr. Bob Simpson and Dr. Stephanie Hartz sustained significant smoke and water damage, but little fire damage.

Even Dr. Steve Barnett, whose office was severely damaged by fire, was able to retrieve some personal and instructional material.

Dr. Kurt Wise, however, apparently suffered the greatest loss as fire ravaged his office. But he said he was able to find several items that may be salvageable.

Personnel from three contracting firms moved into the building to begin removing rubble from the third floor, cleaning and preserving documents and evaluating and restoring electronic equipment.

Shortly before this special edition of *Bryan Life* went to print, engineers had given their approval to renovate or remodel the building using the existing exterior walls and foundation.

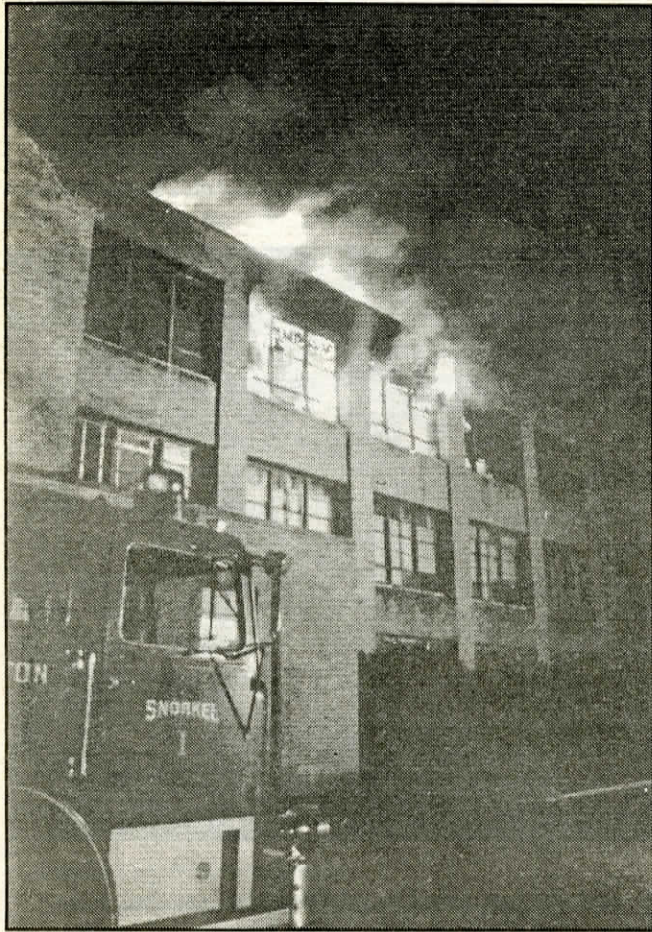
About this issue of Bryan Life

In the week following the Administration Building fire, Bryan College has been flooded with calls from alumni and friends wanting information and offering their help. This special edition of *Bryan Life* is being printed to provide the Bryan family in Rhea County and around the world with the most current information available as the paper goes to press.

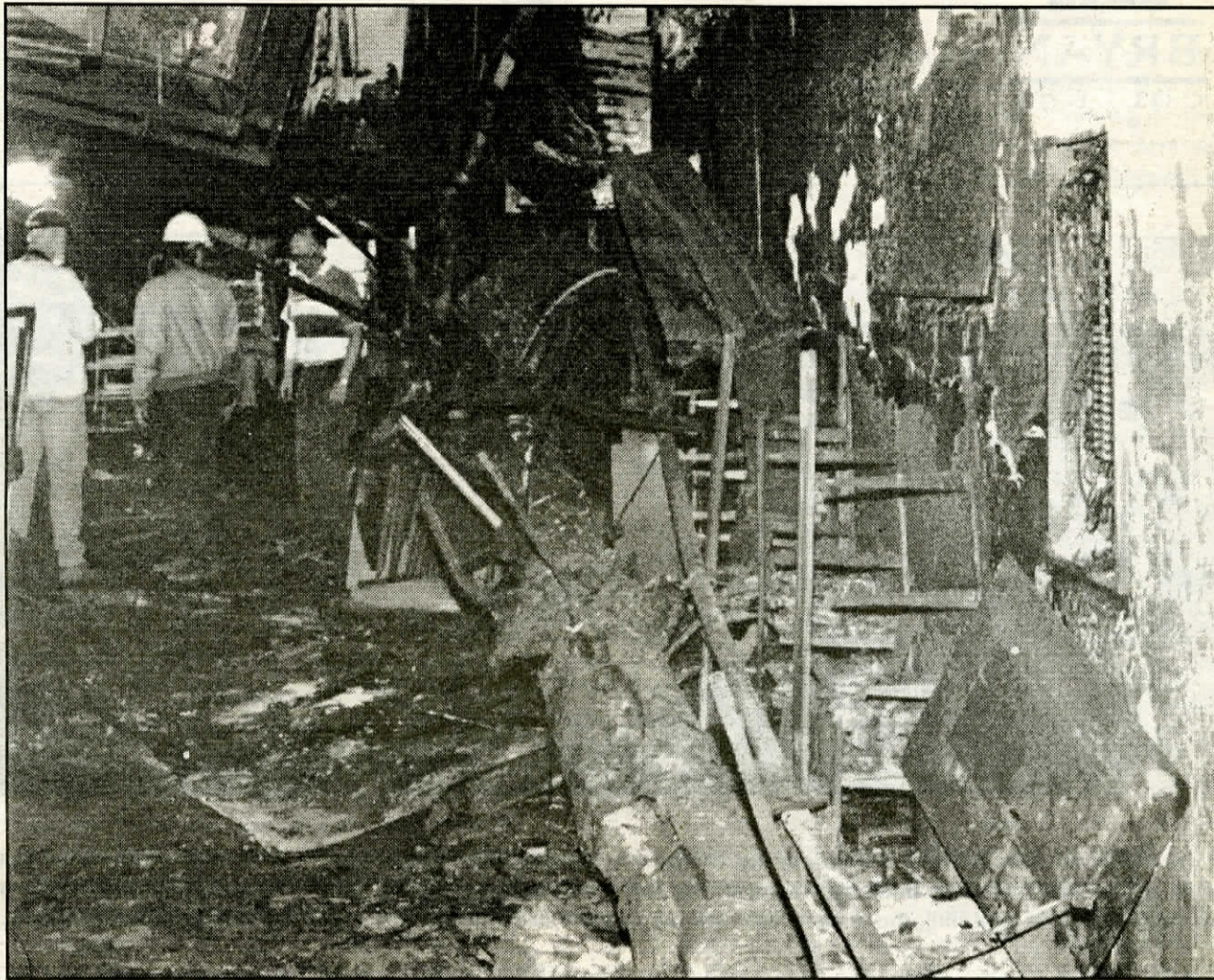
Inside this sheet is a reprint of the Feb. 11, edition of the student newspaper *The Triangle*. Pages 1, 2, 3 and 4 are produced in cooperation with *The Herald-News* in Dayton. John Carpenter, Bryan Class of 1986 and editor of *The Herald-News* in Dayton, graciously provided pictures of the fire and other assistance.

This special section also is being distributed in *The Herald-News* through the courtesy of Publisher Ed Emens and staff.

Scenes from the fire and its aftermath



Flames leap from the third floor of the Ad Building on Feb. 6, as the fire burns its way toward the library. The picture, courtesy of The Herald-News, is taken from the east (back) side of the building.



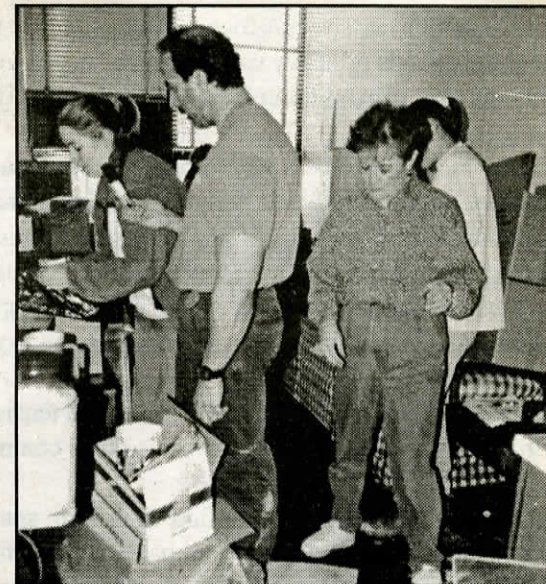
Dr. Steve Barnett, Vice President for Operations Tim Hostetler and Dr. Martin Hartzell, from left, survey the devastation on the third floor in the area between the central and northern stairwells. Broken and charred display cases holding part of the Henning Natural Science Collection are visible at right.



Students -- and at least one professor -- gather at a bulletin board in the cafeteria to see where their next class will be held and to read accounts of the fire. As plans changed, the cafeteria became a central communications facility as well. Photo by Michelle Rich.



Representatives from local and regional media swarmed to Bryan in an effort to show their audience the impact of the fire and the way the college handled the challenge. Here, Dr. Brown is interviewed by a Chattanooga television station following chapel. Photo by Michelle Rich.



Student Jennifer Sweeny assists Mr. Bernie Belisle and Mrs. Karin Traylor as they sort through items from treasures in the faculty lounge. Photo by Michael Brown.

New locations for classes weren't the only hunting students had to do in the days following the fire. The post office was moved to a storage room behind the new kitchen. Photo by Michelle Rich.



It may just look like a parking lot, but these trailers behind R. Auditorium, hold the contents of Bryan's Administration Building until they can be cleaned and returned to their rightful owners. Photo by Michael Brown.

Bryan College TRIANGLE

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FIRE CLAIMS BRYAN ADMIN. BUILDING

The End of One Era Brings Sadness at Loss, but Hope in the Phoenix of a New Day

By David Haase, Staff Writer

A small fire broke out in Bryan College's Administration building around 6 p.m. on Sunday evening, Feb. 6, before growing to a raging blaze which destroyed the entire third floor, including classrooms, professors' offices, and the library labs. No one was injured by the unexpected inferno.

Freshman Tammy Smith was the first to raise the alarm. From her Huston dormitory room, she, along with fellow freshmen Sharyn Rose and Allison Johnson, spotted smoke billowing from windows in the Administration building. At 6:05 p.m. Smith called 911 and alerted Richard Hellner, husband of Huston dormitory Resident Director Krista Hellner. Mr. Hellner ran up the northernmost stairwell armed with a fire extinguisher. The door at the top of the stairs was closed, and Hellner could not open it because of the heat and smoke. Through the door's window he saw that "flames had consumed the whole hallway." He then went to the central stairway. This door was open, and the hallway was "pitch black with smoke." Hellner yelled repeatedly for anyone inside to get out, and then shut the fire door. He then left the building and called 911 again before helping rescue college files and computer servers.

As the fire trucks were arriving, Hellner and a group of Bryan faculty



Beautiful Tragedy: Firefighters from Soddy Daisy battle the flames at eye-level Sunday night, as fire swept through the third floor of the Bryan College Administration Building. No one was injured in the fire, though the building sustained serious damage. PHOTO BY MATTHEW CROXTON

members—Bryan President Bill Brown, Vice President Tom Kemner, and Dean of Enrollment Tom Shaw—ran through the building to make sure that everyone was out. Luckily, the Administration Building was unoccupied. Most of the students were at supper, and the library had closed from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., when the computer lab was scheduled to reopen.

While fire trucks arrived, a few Bryan faculty members raced through thickening smoke to save vital files and equipment. "The priority was getting the hard files of the applicants for the fall semester," said Shaw. "Dr. Brown, Richard Hellner and I did a fireman's brigade and got the actual file drawers out of the office." Soon after that a larger group rescued the computer servers, which support Bryan's web site and intranet system and hold information for the school's administration, faculty, and students. Later in the evening, fire crews also removed filing cabinets containing

academic transcripts, both historic and current, from the Registrar's office on the main floor.

Assistant Registrar Marc Neddo said, "My original request was just to shut the doors [of the fireproof cabinets], but the fire chief said that there's no such thing as a fireproof cabinet. So they brought in dollies [and removed the cabinets]. I was very impressed. They understood the importance of the material and moved very quickly."

At 6:11 p.m., Captain Donnie Moore of the City of Dayton Fire Department arrived with the first crew of firefighters. Moore went with his first crew up a stairwell, but the fire was unapproachable because of intense smoke and toxic gasses. Moore reported that the smoke had reduced flashlight visibility to mere inches.

Moore said that after the initial foray inside the firemen went to a "defensive attack," or a strategy of containment: the firemen would try to

keep the fire from spreading past the firewalls at the middle tower on the third floor, and also away from the Chemistry lab at the northern end of the building.

Firefighters managed to protect the lab, but not the rest of the third floor. At approximately 7:50 p.m., flames flared from roof sections south of the central tower, past the firewall. Assistant Fire Chief of Dayton and Fire Investigator for Rhea County Beau Kaylor related the battle: "We had an interior attack, [but] the roof caved in and we had to pull them out. Because of the dangers involved we couldn't send anyone back in. So the fire rolled down the roof and jumped the firewall into the south end of the building. The fire actually rolled over the top of the building on the outside and caught the other roof on fire."

A shortage of water also limited the firemen's effectiveness. According to Kaylor, the college is well

supplied by a six-inch water main, but this proved inadequate to the hoses' demands. The crews were forced to take turns, waiting while crews in one section used the available water before they could act against the flames themselves.

With nothing more to stop its path, the fire advanced southward along the third floor. It consumed classroom after classroom and eventually devoured the top floor of the library at the building's southern end. According to Moore, the fire was under control by 1:30 a.m. Monday morning, but firemen stayed the rest of the night to control hot spots and further secure the situation.

Approximately 100 men from eight area fire departments contributed to the effort, according to Moore. Dayton City, Graysville, Soddy Daisy, Sale Creek, Cleveland/Bradley County, Dallas Bay, and several Rhea

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Question of the hour: What does the future hold as aftermath

By Christina M. Neeley,
Staff Writer

"Where do we go from here?" has been the question on the minds of those who witnessed the fire that raged through the Bryan College Administration Building on Sunday. Bryan College President Dr. Bill Brown promptly addressed that issue at the chapel service held on Monday morning.

Many expected to hear an account of what was lost. Others were prepared for a lengthy academic respite while temporary arrangements were made. Instead, Brown opened the session by contrasting the material loss of the school with the devastating loss of Mailroom Director Winnie Davey's father, who passed away early Monday morning.

Brown announced that classes would reconvene on Tuesday, and Assistant Registrar Marc Neddo wasted no time assigning makeshift classrooms to each of the classes. "We started with a list of options of what had been offered and what we could come up with around campus," Neddo said. "Then we narrowed it down to what was most conducive to teaching and learning."

With the help of some outdated printed records and a small, charred copier rescued from the burning Administration building, Neddo and three key student workers produced a tentative class schedule. "What a computer could have done in minutes, [the students] did by hand. It took hours," Neddo said. Although many generous offers were made regarding classroom space around the community, Neddo estimated that 95 percent of the classes were able to meet on campus.

Others were quick to respond to Brown's challenge to keep going. Brock Hall was turned into a "command center" as college staff and administrators, who formerly inhabited the second floor of the Administration building, set up temporary offices. College officials worked around a web of telephone lines, creating a spectacle for

gawkers and photographers.

Among the busy officials was Tom Davis, Director of Public Information. Davis explained that all Bryan College facilities are insured by The Saint Paul group. College and em-

properly, the fire marshal has the responsibility of determining how and where the fire started. Once that information is ascertained, structural engineers will be called in to assess the damage. This will determine

The recent fire has disrupted building plans for the Life Center. Renovating the Administration building will be a different project, said Davis.

Davis said he was "th

yond words" response from community and the nooga media the event. The news station not hesitated chapel prayer, and things' you ordinarily expect Davis.

Neddo pressed appeal for the student understanding port. He is students and have retained of humor as well students off pay me not to a class," he said.

Bryan's response to the been overwhelmed positive, as Brown pointed out.



The Crow's Nest Work crews began to investigate the fire damage on extended arms Monday morning. The third floor was considered unsafe for human entry until late Friday.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW CROXTON

Weekend Weather:



Friday: Scatt. Showers,
high 65, low 40

Saturday: Partly Cloudy,
high 49, low 29

Sunday: Mostly Cloudy,
high 51, low 35

On This Day in History:

--Born: Inventor Thomas Alva Edison (1847) and actress Tina Louise, "Ginger" on the television sitcom *Gilligan's Island* (1937).

--In 1970, Japan released its first satellite, *Ohsumi*, into outer space, and became the world's fourth space power.

--Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela was released from a South African prison after serving 27 years of jail time in 1990.



Welcome to Bryan College! Brock Hall is festooned with computer wires as Administration offices settle in to continue with daily functions.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH

whether or not the building must be completely rebuilt.

A figure of \$10 million worth of damage has been tossed out by the media, but Davis said that this is not endorsed by Bryan College. The estimates are "pie in the sky," according to Davis, and are based on the assumption of a total loss. Davis spoke to one fireman who went through the second floor of the library and found that some of the books were not even wet. An accurate figure will not be available until the insurance company is able to formally assess the damage, Davis said.

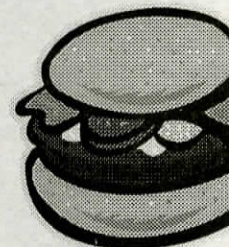
the book of Nehemiah Tuesday's chapel service, the Israelites decided to rebuild the city walls that had crumbled. Initial enthusiasm wore off, and grew tired, the Israelites decided that "the walls weren't the people," Brown said. The message served to encourage the student body to "lift each other up" as they continued to struggle with the experience of frustration. Brown closed the service by asking another question that has challenged Bryan College: "What are we made of?"

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February 11, 2000

Newsdesk

3

Investigation uncovers fire's beginning as "electrical in nature"

continued from page 1

County units contributed to the effort that sought to end the blaze.

The fire investigation began the following morning, but was slowed because of a mercury spill near the chemistry lab and safety concerns regarding the structure and surrounding debris. In a press conference Wednesday, Dick Garner, director of the bomb and arson division of the State Fire Marshall's office, said that determining the fire's point of origin was fairly simple due to numerous photos and video recordings supplied by observers. The fire started in a third floor classroom in the back, above the ceiling tile, he said. His department had determined that the fire was "electrical in nature," and they had no suspicion of foul play. He added that gas burners in the classroom had helped to accelerate the blaze.

Before noon on Wednesday, Feb. 9 the fire inspector turned the southern half of the building over to the college. At 4 p.m. they concluded their investigation and turned the rest of the building over. Faculty were allowed into this area briefly on

Wednesday to recover their most important items. Classes at the college were cancelled Thursday to allow the faculty to recover their office belongings. Crews of students helped with the cleanup as well.

While the extent of the damage is not yet certain, much has been lost. The Willard Henning Natural Science Museum on the building's third floor is certainly destroyed, along with Dr. Kurt Wise's office, which held all his materials, resources, and research. "My professional life is gone," the prominent Creationist scientist said as he watched the building burn. "My library, all my research, all my files, all my papers . . . over 5,000 slides—a lifetime collection of geological phenomena."

Also destroyed were the library's 24-unit computer lab, a rare book collection, the Hanna Technology Center, and "the 21st Century Classroom," high-tech instruction rooms that were newly built in recent years. In the library itself, an unknown number of books were destroyed. Tom Davis, Bryan Director of Public Information, inspected the southern end of the remaining floors Wednesday.

"On both first and second floor



Respectful Silence: A group of area fire officials face their foe and the ravages of the blaze (above). Below, flames flash as the inferno moves through classrooms along the rear of the Ad. Building.

PHOTOS BY MATT CROXTON

of the library some books look to be in great shape, and some were obviously damaged," he said. "The south corridor looks pretty good." Davis could not estimate on the percentage of books that might be salvaged.

While the firefighters fought the blaze, students and faculty stood and watched their building burn. Tara Luther, Resident Director of Long dorm said, "I couldn't speak; I just cried and prayed." Bible professor Dr. David Fouts said, "This is the event of the millenium for Bryan College."

President Bill Brown summed up the college's response with this statement: "Bryan College has always been a college that has responded well to adversity. The Lord has given this to us, and He's going to supply for us, and we're going to get through it."



More Than a Tragedy—An Opportunity Dr. Bill Brown speaks with one of the many television crews from Chattanooga who gave the disaster strong coverage.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH



Be Still, and Know... Large numbers of Bryan students gathered during the fire to pray and offer worship to God, despite their sense of loss.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH

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The *Triangle* is a student publication of Bryan College. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the college. Guest opinion pieces are welcome. Editors reserve the right to edit all letters.

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World and Local News

Man Invents Daughter to Gain Car

When his car was stolen early Monday, 30-year-old Michael Amos told police that his young daughter was asleep in the back seat at the time of the theft. However, Amos had no such daughter; he had invented one and lied about her capture with hopes of spurring the police to search out the car faster.

His plan worked—police tracked down the car in less than two hours. But when the police found out that Amos had used his imaginary daughter to spur them into speeding up their search, they charged him with a felony of filing a false police report.

"It was his mother's car and he was afraid he would get in trouble," said police spokesman Terry Hastings. "He fessed up and said he told the story to make us find the car faster."

Yo Yo Miss Liberty

An anonymous text that appeared years ago on the internet has spread the theory that The Statue of Liberty "was intended as a monument to the abolition of slavery in the United States and that the original model was a black woman," according to National Park Service anthropologist Rebecca M. Joseph. The official history of Lady Liberty holds that the statue was proposed by French historian Edouard Laboulaye in 1865, to memorialize the friendship between France and the United States begun during the Revolutionary War. However, Laboulaye also was a leader in the French Abolitionist movement. Joseph is currently searching United States and French archives to find out if Laboulaye had also wanted the statue to commemorate freed slaves.

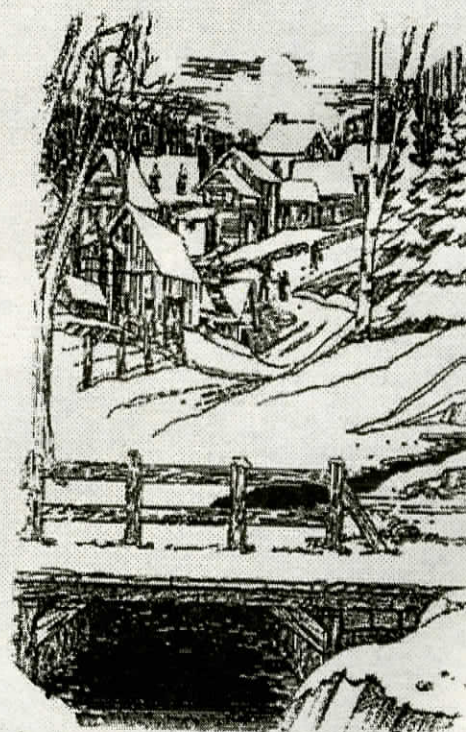
Ummm...Check? (Always Leave a Tip)

Pavle Bulatovic, Yugoslavia's defense minister, was gunned down Monday in a Belgrade restaurant. Bulatovic had been in the dining room of the soccer club Rad when he was shot and then taken to the Belgrade hospital, where he died. He is the most recent and the highest-ranking official in a series of seemingly gang-related killings. According to Montenegrin police, the gunman fired an automatic weapon from a restaurant window and hit Bulatovic, restaurant owner, Mirko Knezevic, and Vuk Obradovic. Police say that Knezevic and Obradovic were only slightly wounded.

**Hostages Retained by Afghans**

Afghan terrorists seized control of an Afghan jet on a domestic flight last Sunday. Through a tangle of negotiations with officials of Stansted, England, the plane ended up in suburban London where the terrorists released eight passengers and received supplies for the hostages onboard. Though the purpose of their demands is still unknown, reports from the Middle East say that the terrorists may be trying to free an Afghan soldier held by the Islamic fundamentalist Taliban movement that controls much of Afghanistan. Mullah Mohammad Omar, Taliban's supreme leader, said "We will not negotiate with them. We will not accept their demands."

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Considering It Pure Joy: An Interview with Dr. William Brown

The Triangle had the opportunity to discuss the recent traumatic events with Bryan College President Dr. William Brown. The conversation is here transcribed for you, our readers...

Triangle: What was your first reaction when you heard about the fire?

Brown: I heard at first that there was a small fire, so I just came up to see. When I came and saw the amount of smoke coming out (this was about twenty minutes till 6 o'clock), I was devastated, and my first thought was 'Let's get stuff out.' So we started getting stuff out of the admissions office and then ran down to the computer room.

T: What were some of the things that you had to deal with during the first night of the fire? I heard you were up pretty late that night.

B: The first thing I had to deal with was my own emotions about it, because this is our home and [has] a lot of history. That was really hard at first, and then I began to think 'OK, what are we gonna do?' My first thought was that we need to take care of the students—I was mainly concerned with the students, being able to get them back in the dorms or some place comfortable for the evening, and I felt that if we could take care of them, then everything else was secondary. And then getting the fire out was important, and just getting out of the firefighters' way. On the leadership side, we affirmed everybody that God was in control, and that we were there and we were gonna make things happen, and like a lot of students said, how comforting it was to see some faculty and staff in Rudd during the evening, just being there helped

them feel a little bit better about what was going on.

T: What about the situation the next night?

B: We ascertained that Sunday night we were up till 1, 2, 3 in the morning; some didn't sleep at all. But we said we were gonna get together at 7 in the morning, all of us vice presidents, and figure out what we were going to do. And that's exactly what we did—we met over at the Bailey House, [meeting] till almost chapel time, and figured out how we could get classes going the next day.

T: As you watched the fire progress along, what was going through your mind and heart at that time?

B: Just so emotional, just devastated, and I kept praying 'God, put that fire out,' and every time flames would leap from a particular room, I kept thinking of all the classes I've had in that room, or the professor that had an office there, or how much money we spent to put that lab in, and the 21st century classroom, and all of those things. I thought, 'What a tremendous loss: of investment, of time and money,' and so on.

T: Who or what were your main sources of support as you dealt with it [the fire]?

B: Well, when I thought about what was going on, to know that God was in control [was important to me].

And the students... I mean, I don't know how many students came up and said that to me: 'God is in control of this, and God is gonna be glorified by this.' That was overwhelming. Students... my wife was probably my biggest support, and then the other administrators—their attitude was 'What do we do? How are we going to respond?'... the attitude was, 'Alright, let's go for it.' And then you had Roger Simmons and his crew, and it's just incredible the way people responded. That's taken some of the sorrow out of it. Many have said, 'God has us here for such time as this, and we're glad it's us.'

T: How do you see this event fitting into Bryan College history.

B: Well, this is without a doubt the biggest tragedy for Bryan College, but considering there was no loss of life or injury, we praise God for that. People will always remember this; this kicks off our millenium. And as Dr. Paul Kahn said this (Wednesday) morning in chapel, when it's all over with, we're gonna look back and see this as a real time, a defining moment for Bryan College. We knew that we're turning the corner in a number of ways, through expanding facilities, growing, getting a national reputation academically and biblically—and this has jumpstarted all of that, and is defining us in great ways. It's going to really put us on the map even more in a very positive way, I think. I say that, though it could have been a negative thing, but because of the quality of the students and the faculty and staff here, it's going to be just wonderfully positive.

T: It did, it almost started out that way. Of course, by nature it is a negative thing, but it never really started out that way at all; it didn't have a chance to.

B: [I remember] sitting on the park bench just crying looking at that, thinking, 'What are we gonna do? What are we gonna do... everything we've worked so hard for?' That's your initial emotion; then God just comes in and you begin to think 'What?' And one student came up and said, 'You know, it's just stuff.' You start getting a biblical perspective of it, and in fact I did a national radio program yesterday, and the talkshow host basically said, 'Why is Bryan College different?' And, obviously, [it is] because our worldview helps us to see even events like this

through the eyes of Christ. And then you respond in an appropriate way, and everything gives glory to God. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

T: How has your perspective and attitude toward the future changed from the time of the fire to now?

B: Well to be honest with you, I am probably more positive about the future than I was three days ago, because tremendous growth comes through adversity, if you have the right perspective of God. And if there is anything that has shown me God's hand, it's been what's happened over the last three days. People being excited, the unity of the faculty, the students—this is a great place. We are resilient, and the future's just awesome.

T: What do you think was the greatest loss in the fire?

B: Well, I don't think there is anything other than the loss. To me, the greatest loss personally is Kurt Wise's material, his life's work. How much of that can be restored I don't know. And then the loss of the Henning museum... that wonderful natural science museum is gone... and the rare book collection. All of those things are irreplaceable. The rest of it you can replace, but those things are irreplaceable which speak of lives, which represent people. Those are the things that hurt the most. Besides that, everything is a gain.

T: How have students been an encouragement to you?

B: I have gotten more mes-

sages from students—notes, group coming by giving us stuff, a group of girls came over last night bringing desert, and just to talk. And even during the fire, groups of students would come up to pray and to talk, and so many students said, 'Thank you for leadership,' and those kinds of things. [It's been] constant encouragement from the students. Energized by students anyway, but has just been magnified tenfold through all this.

T: How are you adjusting to new offices down in Brock Hall?

B: (laughs) Well, we're finding out how much we like each other, who smells and who doesn't... but in fact, I think it's a good thing, because we're all in this together, and we can't be sad because you hear all activity going on and in many ways that helps you feed on what has been done, and you rejoice together, it's been kind of fun so far.


T: What is the greatest thing that you'd like students to pray during this time?

B: Well, there's probably more than one thing. Primarily, persistence for everybody—that the attitudes and the desire to make work, whatever it takes... that continues. Because as I said in chapel yesterday, that's something that can't be easily melted away, you know? You're tired of the inconveniences and on, on the part of both student and faculty. And then, just as quickly as possible to get things restored the way they were. [This task] involves wisdom for us in making decisions and people that are experts and how to do it. But getting to that is important, too.



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February 11, 2000

Feature

7

Student response toward tragedy reflects an eternal perspective

By Michael Landry, Staff Writer

As the flash of lights, the scream of sirens, and the stench of smoke filled the campus of Bryan College Sunday night, a variety of emotions filled much of the student body as they stood by and watched the fifty-year-old Administration building go up in flames. Some cried on friends' shoulders, some sang hymns to God, and some merely stared at the inferno with blank expressions, unable to express their feelings about the situation.

It was horrible situation. Dr. Bill Brown, President of Bryan College, said, "This is probably the most tragic event on campus in my life." Junior Kristi Lestmann, daughter of Dr. Phil Lestmann (Professor of Mathematics), said "I felt like part of me was in that building because I helped lay tile in my dad's office. He had things in that room that my sisters and I had

made for him. It's just a building, but it really tears me up."

Senior Beth Phillips, daughter of Dr. Gary Phillips (Professor of Bible and Philosophy), also recalled many years spent around the great edifice. She said, "I've memorized every room of that building. It represents a lot of my childhood." Phillips and Lestmann, who each grew up around the college, agreed that it was like watching their homes go up in flames.

Whatever was being felt Sunday night, the students held one thing in common: a certainty that God in His sovereignty would bring the school through the crisis. As students huddled in Rudd Auditorium following the evacuation of the dorms and Triangle area, Brown comforted and challenged them, stating, "Bryan College has always faced adversity and done well. In fact, that is our strength."

Later, as the murmur of student prayer filled the auditorium, it became

clear that perhaps never in the history of the college had the student body been so united. People who had never met before clasped each other's hands as they fervently voiced their concerns, emotions, and petitions to God. Several individuals led the rest of the student body in singing hymns and praise songs such as *Shout to the Lord*, *Amazing Grace*, and *It Is Well With My Soul*. Others shared favorite Bible verses that gave them comfort in times of trial.

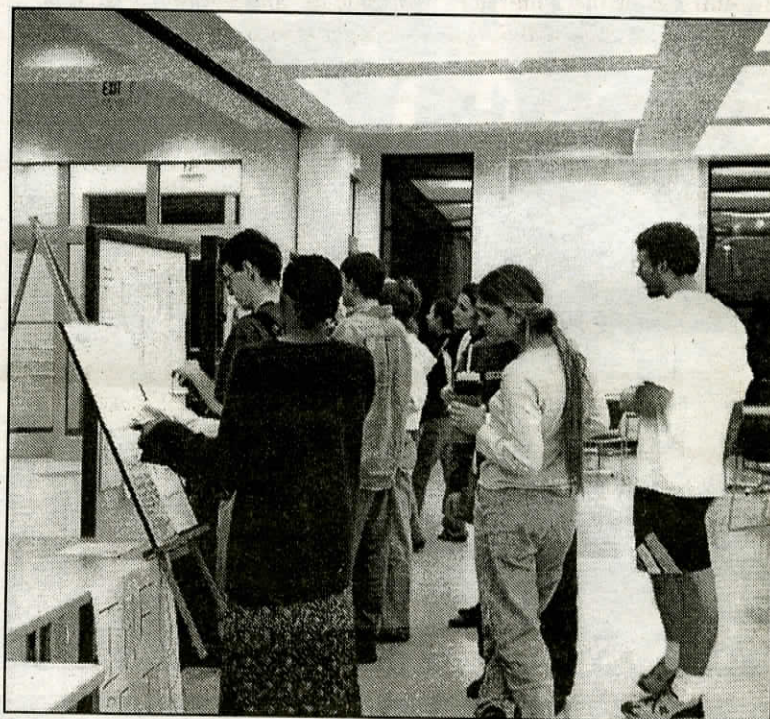
Many of the students were actually thrilled about the way things turned out Sunday night. Freshman Rachel Pierce remarked, "It's awesome to see God's protection over us by allowing us to be out of class when this happened." Alumnus Mark Anderson said, "I look forward to seeing what God has in store for us, and I pray that He gives us the courage and the boldness to see it through." Some even found humor in the situation, as they joked about

cancelled classes and honorary 4.0 grade-point averages. As sophomore Dan Evans jokingly put it, "From this point on we'll be able to say we've gone through worse."

Overall, the students of Bryan College responded with an overwhelming sense of unity, responsibility, and contentment. Dr. Peter Held, Vice President of Student Life, spoke Sunday night, assuring students that, "This will be a great opportunity for us to grow closer together as a college." The students have capitalized on that opportunity.

Students have also kept complaints to a minimum, choosing instead to cooperate with the faculty

and administration to get the college back on its feet. A group of twenty guys helped move tables and chairs throughout the day on Monday. Others helped to assemble computers, and several students helped the registrar's office with administrative work. However, the most exciting possibility is that students may have the opportunity to contribute to the cleanup efforts, much like Bryan students from ages past helped build the Administration building. Dr. Brown has said on more than one occasion that Bryan has the best student body in the world, and many have agreed, based on the response to this tragedy.



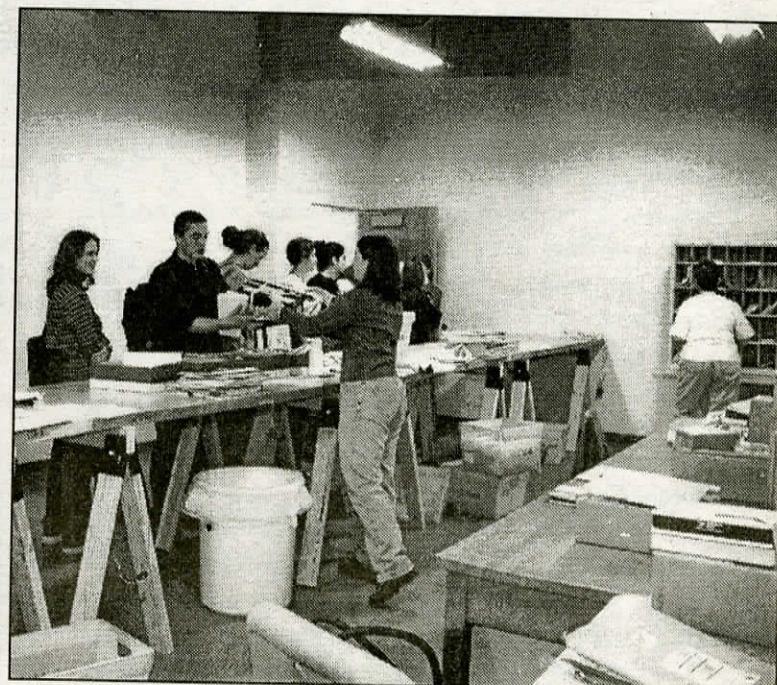
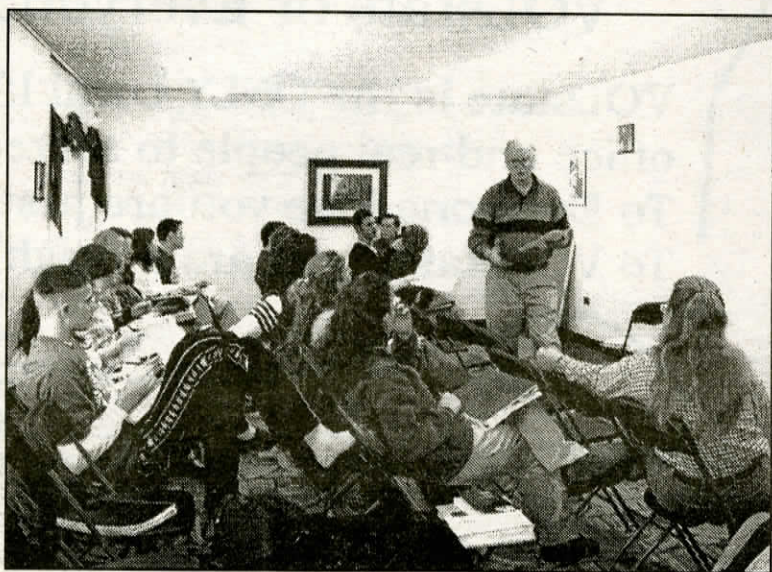
Back to the Basics Students receive information regarding classes from bulletin boards in the cafeteria.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH



For the Sake of Learning Students have found themselves in uncomfortable places for instruction, including locker rooms (above) and dorm lounges (below).

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH



Packages? Students now receive their mail from a storage room behind Argo's Food Service.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH

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A Note from the Editors:

The fire in the Administration Building has left students with many images burned into the eye of the mind. We at the *Triangle* have attempted to capture some of the finer pictures and display them for our readers. We would like to thank those who have generously contributed photographs and pieces for our publication--namely, Matthew Croxton and Bethany Horton, and guest writer Michelle Mundy. The editorial staff also wishes to express its appreciation to the staff, who have laboured quickly and diligently to produce this issue.



February Concert Calendar

Newsboys in Concert

Living in the boon docks doesn't necessarily promise to provide great concert opportunities. However, let it be known that on Monday, Feb. 21, at 7p.m., the Newsboys, Sonicflood, and Beanbag will be in concert on the outskirts of the Hamilton Place Mall parking lot.

Unfortunately, the concert is not free. General admission is \$15.50, while "red carpet" admission will cost up to \$25. The "red carpet" admission will allow the ticketholder to meet each and every member of the band prior to the performance. Tickets are on sale at Family Christian Stores in Chattanooga and Cleveland, Tenn., and Dalton, Ga.

So gather your friends, cram into your cars, and head out to the Hamilton Place Mall to provide some crowd support for the three Christian bands on the evening of Feb. 21. It promises to be a great show!

—Josh Lowery, *Triangle* Entertainment Correspondent

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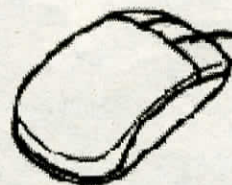
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February 11, 2000

Feature

9

Loss of Henning Natural Science Museum brings fond memories

By Jennifer Vanden Heuvel,
Staff Writer

"Ninety years from now, we'll all be in glory. This [the recent fire] just shows that things are temporal," said Bryan College Museum Curator Tom Gardner. As the curator, Gardner was speaking of the extensive damage done during the fire to the Henning Museum, as well as his own office at Bryan College last Sunday night.

"I looked in the windows with binoculars, and I have more hope than I did have. Some of the cases were intact," said Gardner, who thought that everything had been completely destroyed. "I could see the insect collection. I couldn't see

the insects themselves, but the boxes still had the latches on them."

"Our museum had a lot of personality," he remarked. "It will never be the same. It's going to be hard to go in there and start picking up the pieces, the things that are half there." The museum contained several unique and irreplaceable collections, many of them gathered over lifetimes.

The Hood Collection contained hundreds of abalone shells that Hood gathered from the South Pacific during his military career. All carefully catalogued with dates and locations, entire population samples were represented. Gardner, who grew up in Columbia, also kept a personal collection of two hundred South American

butterflies in his office.

A mounted cougar, African lion, red fox, and other members of the Wolfe Collection either lined the hallway or guarded Gardner's door. It is speculated that a mounted monkey is the lone survivor. The Conley collection was an ensemble of arrowheads, fossils, and other artifacts, most notably pottery.

Most of the items on display had been donated as gifts to the founder of the museum, former Bryan College professor Willard Henning. Henning began collecting specimens from the community in 1956, but he began to collect parts of his legacy during the early twenties. "He wanted the students to appreciate God's cre-

ation up close," said Gardner, speaking of Henning's reason for starting the museum.

"My office is by an air vent," Gardner continued, "and even though people didn't know it, I could hear them talking about how neat it was."

According to Gardner, the museum was unique for two reasons besides its unconventional purpose. First, the museum was not only a local attraction, but had also gained international exposure over the years. "The museum had a good local scope, but also a broad international scope. That's unusual in this area," said Gardner.

Mainly due to the donations of missionaries, the museum contained

artifacts from nearly every continent, according to Gardner. Second, the herbarium contained an unusually wide range of biological specimens. "We live between several ecosystems," said Gardner, mentioning the pine forests to the south, the Appalachians to the north, and the Tennessee valley.

Gardner maintains an eternal perspective in light of the recent great losses. "Things are temporal. All my catalogues are lost...everything," Gardner sighed. "But God was just giving it to us to enjoy. It's like when I give something to my daughter. I love to watch her enjoy it. But I don't expect it to last."

Library loses valuable volumes, yet hopes that many shall be saved

By Josh Lowery, Staff Writer

On the evening of Feb. 6, 2000, a fire marched the length of the Bryan College Administration building, thoroughly cooking the expanse of the third floor, not to mention eating its way through much of the roof. Among the hardest hit areas was the library, a sweet dessert after a meal one-third the size of Noah's Ark.

The third-floor library was primarily a housing place for the majority of the rare books owned by the school. Where the William Jennings Bryan collection, the H.A. Ironside (for whom the library is named) collection, some extremely old Bibles, and the collection of the entire Bryan College curriculum used to be, there now lie large piles of ash. Also among the ruins were the inter-library loan office (which contained the current records of loaned and rented books), the paintings of Bryan's distinguished past college presidents, and two rows of either melted or blackened computers. Adjoining the third floor library is the Hannah Center Language Lab, which also has been completely burned out.

Extensive steps are now being taken to clean out the library. Dr. Dennis Ingolfsland, Director of Library Services (along with Dr. and Mrs. Steve Bradshaw, Dr. Stephen Barnett, Dr. Travis Ricketts and Dr. Phillip Lestmann) is working around the clock to organize the salvaged materials. Assisting him in the task is Public Services Librarian Vonnice Johnson. All of the salvaged materials are coming from the first and second floors of the library, and are being grouped into three categories.

that have been used most) will be compiled into a temporary library that will be housed in one of many portable buildings that have been ordered and are expected to land on the Bryan College campus some time this weekend. Books will be shelved in the approximate location they held in the former library. However, the shelves must be aired out prior to entering the new temporary facility.

"The projected building of use for the temporal library, which will serve the campus for at least the next year, is approximately 60 feet by 60 feet. In it, we will have the best of the best available to the students," said Ingolfsland. Any books beyond those provided in the temporary library must be acquired through inter-library loan. Lee University, Tennessee Temple University, and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) have also opened their doors to Bryan students for complete and uninhibited use of their respective resources.

The second category of organization for the library books is the "semi-used stuff." Ingolfsland explained, "You know, those never-seen books that rarely get used but are there just in case some student has to see it for a research paper." These books will be put into storage until the new library is built.

Thirdly, there is the problem of the "wet books," particularly those with water and smoke damage beyond remedy. These books will be thrown away. Fortunately, the library card catalog is still intact. All books still in date will eventually be replaced. All books that are no longer in date or in circulation will be replaced by the insurance company, with a rough

riculum and educational materials that were lost will be replaced with new, up-to-date versions.

No estimates can yet be made as to the financial toll the fire has taken—neither pertaining to the

losses that have been suffered, nor to the cost of the replacing of books and the rebuilding or restructuring of the library itself.

"It's going to be an extremely time-consuming project, taking care

of the situation we have here," said Ingolfsland. "But I think it will go a lot quicker than one might think. The finished product will be a much better, more up-to-date library for the students' use."

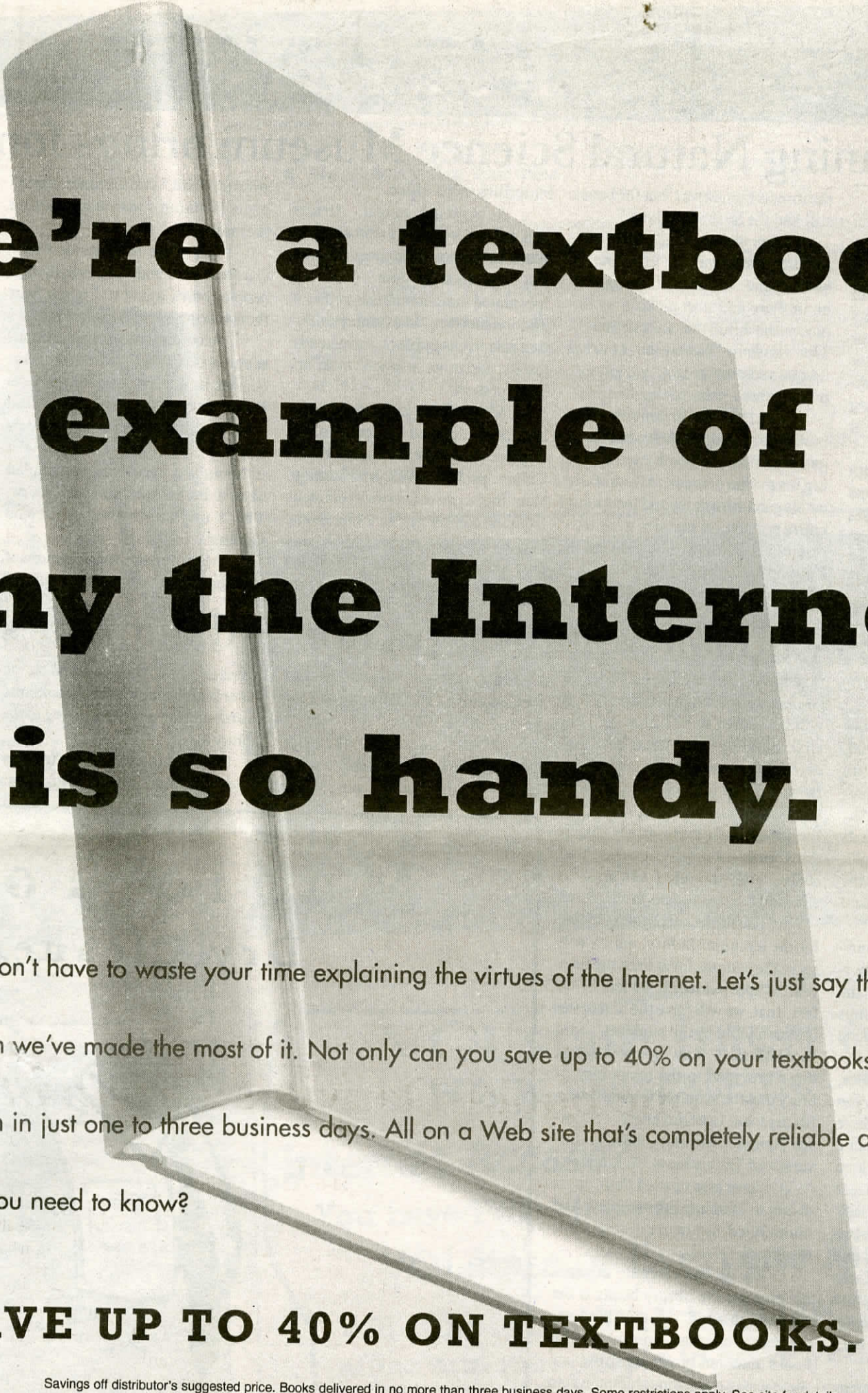
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Bryan band loses much equipment, but maintains purpose

By Michelle Rich, Staff Writer

Unlike the Bryan College professors, most students did not have any personal items in the Administration Building during the fire. However, a student band named Laden had all their music equipment in the Tower Theater. Laden consists of

juniors Chad Brogan and Ben Lavoie and sophomore Dan Evans.

When the news of the fire reached the band, they did not expect the blaze to reach their instruments. Evans said, "I didn't believe it would be as bad as it was. I

thought it would be localized and I didn't think it would reach the tower."

However, the band, like the rest of the students, watched all of third floor burn in Sunday night's fire. Currently

no one is allowed to enter the building, but the band estimates that if they lost everything, the loss of more than 40 pieces of equipment would cost over \$6,000 to replace.

Some of the most expensive items included a five piece drum set, amplifiers, three guitars, speakers, and a new PA system. "Electronics and water do not mix," said Brogan. "The heat could warp the metals and distort the sound."

Anything electronic is at high risk of total damage in either element.

The three-member band hopes to enter Tower Theatre soon to assess the damages. Evans said, "I still don't believe it. I probably won't have closure until I see it."

Brogan and Lavoie began playing guitar and writing music together their freshman year. Last year, Evans joined the duo on drums. The group started out with an amplifier, two guitars and a drum set. Over the last year the band grew

and has been performing in front of audiences. Brogan and Lavoie trade off playing the bass and lead guitars. None of the band members are insured under their parents' homeowners insurance; however, the school has offered to compensate for some of the losses.

Last Friday and Saturday Laden practiced in the tower. They had recently set everything up in Tower to practice for upcoming performances

Evans added, "Stuff just started to click. As a group, we were getting a lot tighter."

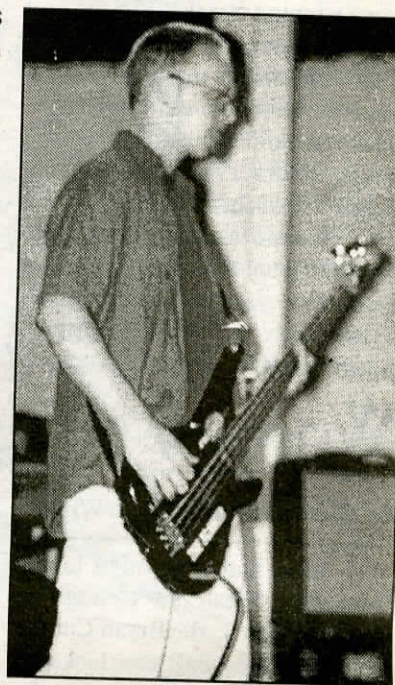
Laden's name originated from Matthew 11:28 where Jesus says, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (KJV). Brogan said, "God has laid stuff on our hearts to share with others."

Lavoie said that the name is a tool for evangelism; "Laden is using the abilities God's given us to spread His word. People come up to us and ask us what the name means. We are able to share the Gospel."

Laden had several performances in the near future. The band had already found

ing a demo tape this semester.

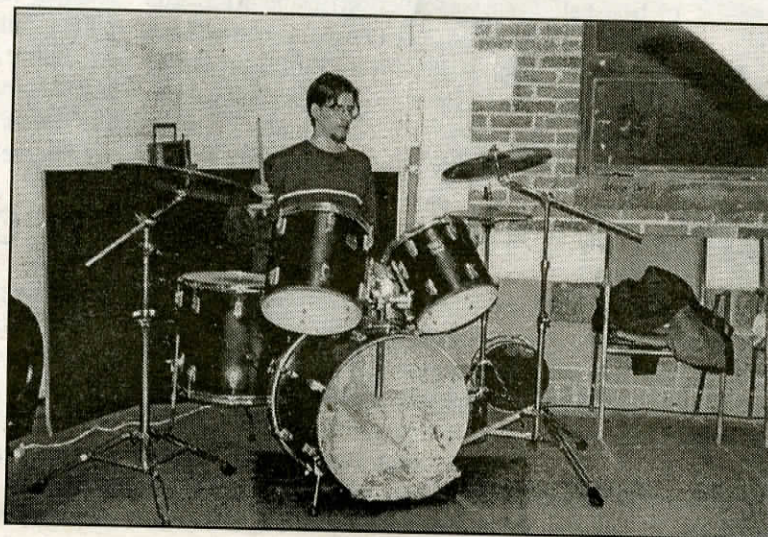
The band views the fire as an opportunity for God to work and says that the losses are only a setback for them. Brogan said, "It's just equipment, nothing nostalgic like what the



professors lost. It pales in comparison to Dr. Wise. We could go out and buy the same equipment and replace it if we had the money."

Brogan added, "God's blessed us with good deals on equipment when we needed it. He has brought us along the whole way. God knows what He's doing. This is nothing; only a road bump in God's plan."

PHOTOS OF LADEN PROVIDED BY BETHANY HORTON



and were going to move everything to Rudd Auditorium Tuesday night. Brogan said, "We just got it [the PA system] sounding perfect Saturday night. Those practices should have been bad, because of Dan's sickness and exhaustion, but God worked mightily those nights. He made them our best practices to date."

equipment for playing in chapel in a scheduled performance on Wednesday, but the performance is moved to an undetermined time next week. Lavoie said that about five guys, mostly on their hall, allowed them to borrow equipment for the performance. Despite the setback, Laden still has plans of recording and mak-

Creationist saves one book--Darwin's *Origin of the Species*

By Jennifer Vanden Heuvel, Staff Writer

"I could see my whale vertebrae in the light of my books burning," began Dr. Kurt Wise, Associate Professor of Science, who is speculated to be the professor who lost the most during the Sunday night fire that gutted most of the third floor of the Bryan College Administration building.

Though no one has been allowed to explore the third floor where the offices of several professors were located, Bryan College Academic Vice President David Masoner has said that except for some science labs on the north end of the building, everything is gone. The amount of research and material lost is extensive. Wise's office contained a life-

time of research; his entire professional career. Eight filing cabinets, almost 90 percent full of irreplaceable, student essays, and copies from books that are no longer available were lost in the fire.

Wise had over 5,000 slides that he had taken from every contiguous state, as well as Mexico and Canada. He had been mapping a dinosaur fossil site in Wyoming, where he spent two weeks this past summer. Wise had also visited Death Valley, Calif., every Fall Break for the past five years with a geologist from the Institute for Creation Science. He had been borrowing slides from their rock mapping expeditions. These are also believed to be lost now. For seven years, Wise has also been travelling to the Grand Canyon to study the nautiloid fossils there. "They look like squid with shells... Adults are about three feet

long. I think I'm supposed to give a talk—in Denver?"

Wise has been a world-traveling speaker for some time, often frequenting scientific audiences. However, his speaking schedule and planner is believed to have been destroyed, forcing a laugh from the professor: "All of my speaking engagements are questionable. All of my correspondences are gone. It's kind of nice because I'm not responsible for what I can't do. I don't know when. I don't know where. And I don't know who to tell that I can't do it...it's very freeing."

As a creation scientist, it is ironic that the only piece from Wise's library that was saved was his copy of Darwin's *Origin of the Species*, which Wise had taken home for the weekend. The rest of his 2,000 volumes are destroyed. After listing a few favorite

titles, Wise grinned with disappointment, "All gone up in smoke."

The map that Wise had been making since 1991, a detailed two-mile stretch of Grassy Cove's Salt Peter Cave, had been hanging on his door. Each hour in the caves yielded another 100-foot section, and Wise had limited each expedition into the cave to six hours. Wise, who has rheumatoid arthritis, questioned "Is it even reasonable to start again? Will I be able to do this ten years older?"

Sunday's disaster has raised many questions in Wise's mind. "It's time to sit back and think about one's life," he said. "I've got to build it a different way. The insurance will only cover about \$6,000. I lost over \$70,000. And how do you calculate the value of the information? I could estimate how much money it would take to make all of those copies...some

things are invaluable," he lamented.

"My entire professional life went up in smoke," Wise said. "I don't know if I should start over. I used to do landscaping while I was in graduate school...Landscaping looks very attractive. There is certainly more money in it."

"I read this to my class today," he said, pulling out a sheet of paper with quotes from the film *Gettysburg*. "I thought of this part of the movie when General Lee tells Pickett to gather his division. Pickett says, 'Sir, I have no division.'" Wise reads another line, this one spoken by General Lee: "Never let them see you run. Never let them see you run," he recited. "Right now is the time to rest and regroup. We'll fight again another day."

Lions' hot streak finally ends; Wesleyan returns to win by te

By Matt Williams,
Assistant Editor

The Bryan College Men's Basketball team entered into Tuesday night's contest with Tennessee Wesleyan College, defending a 10-game winning streak. The visiting Bulldogs were seeking retribution for a loss suffered at the hands of the Lions the week before, and left victorious over the home-court Lions, winning by a score of 78-88 and snapping Bryan's streak of triumphs.

The two teams remained close for the first ten minutes of play until Tenn. Wesleyan pulled away to a 25-33 lead, twelve minutes into the game. Junior Travis Stevens responded with

a 3-point field goal that started a comeback, which culminated with a 3-point field goal by junior Jason Beschta, bringing the score to a 40-40 tie. Beschta added another three-pointer before the half ended with a score of 43-40 in Bryan's favor.

Stevens connected with every shot he took in the first half, scoring 14, and was followed by Beschta, who contributed 9 points. Andre Montgomery led Tenn. Wesleyan at the half with 11 points. Nathan Blanton, the Bulldogs' leading scorer, was held to a modest 10 first-half points.

The Lions began the second half with a strong attack and a 55-45 lead, but soon began to yield to the penetrating game of the Bulldogs.

"We couldn't guard them," said Bryan College Men's Basketball Assistant Coach John Stonestreet. "They just killed us with penetration." Beschta remarked, "We could not play defense tonight. We let them score well."

"Our field goal defense has been showing cracks; it showed another one tonight," said Men's Basketball Head Coach Morris Michalski.

The Bulldogs took back the lead on a pair of free throws by Blanton, as a result of a technical foul that was called on freshman Renaldo Atkins. The two teams battled back and forth until the Bulldogs went up by a score of 70-77 on a Blanton three-pointer. The Lions had a chance to pull within two points with 45 sec-

onds left, but Blanton tied up senior Eric Zensen and caused a jump ball, which was awarded to the Bulldogs. The Lions attempted to sneak back into the game, but were turned away by excellent free throw shooting by Tenn. Wesleyan.

"We lost. Hopefully we didn't lose heart," said Michalski. "Tennessee Wesleyan's guards were outstanding."

The Lions were led in scoring by Stevens, with 28 points, and Beschta, who finished with 21. Blanton led the Bulldogs with 29 points, followed by Ray Stone with 21. Junior Josh Lien brought down a total of nine rebounds for Bryan, but the rest of the Lions did not fare as well in the rebounding category.

Rebounding woes were one of the contributing factors in the Lions' first loss in 11 games. The Bulldogs beat the Lions on the road by a total of 13 rebounds. The Lions were also hurt by the absence of senior Brian Anderson, who is nursing an injured knee. His return is still in question.

The Lions remain undefeated despite their recent defeat. They are scheduled to face Belhaven University on Thursday, and will meet Virginia-Wise on Saturday in a conference game. It's just a minor setback, said Stevens.

Women struggle with Wesleyan: drop second to Lady Bulld

By Michelle Mundy, Guest Writer

After a disappointing loss to Tennessee Wesleyan College on Tuesday, Feb. 1, the Bryan College Women's Basketball team looked to even the score on their own turf a week later. However, this past Tuesday night, the Lady Lions fell short, yielding a 69-39 victory to the visiting Lady Dogs.

The Lady Dogs came ready to play ball, but had some doubts as to how the game would unfold, since the

Lady Lions had all their starters healthy. Tenn. Wesleyan player Amber Joyner said, "[Sarah] Cantrell was sick at the last game. We were worried that her being back would affect the game."

Women's Basketball Head Coach Harrison of Tennessee Wesleyan shared some of these concerns, as the Lady Lions were playing were playing at full strength. "We were afraid of a let down," he said.

Sophomore Sarah Cantrell did pose a threat to the Lady Dogs by

leading the Lady Lions with 10 points. At full strength, the Lady Lions challenged their opponents with a strong defense during the first half; however, their guard slackened in the last twelve minutes of the game. During the second half of the game, the Lady Lions turned the ball over to their opponents 18 times, giving the Lady Dogs a chance to score 39 of their 69 points.

Senior Jill Reeves said that it was the little things that brought the team down. "They were not 30 points

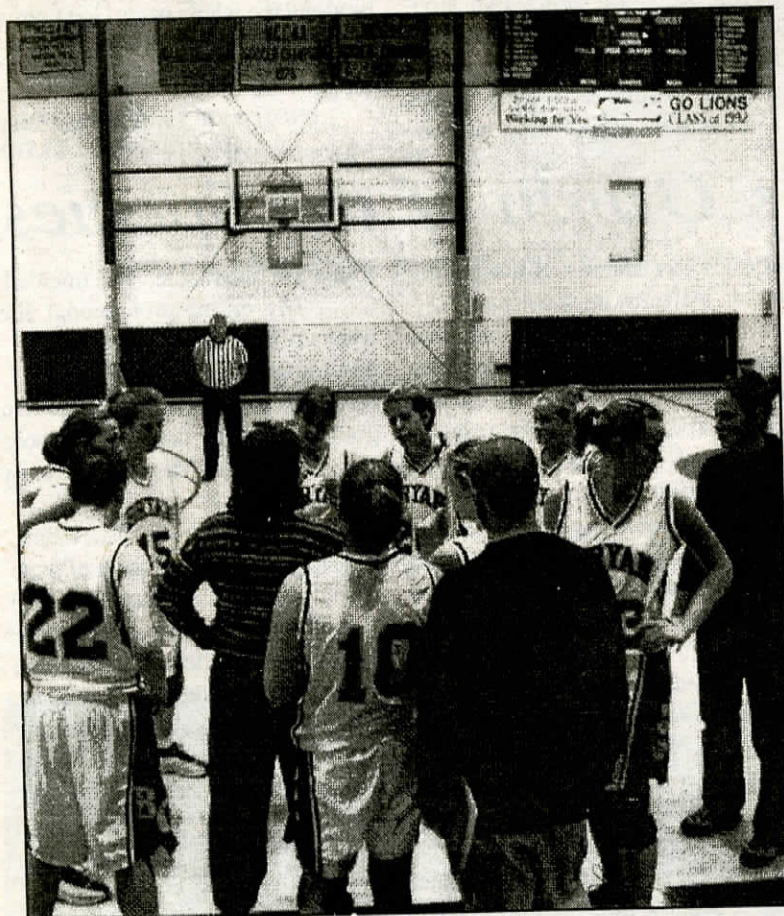
better than us," she said. "We had the potential to win, but we didn't capitalize on it." Reeves said it would take the Lady Lions the full 40 minutes of basketball for them to win.

Bryan Women's Basketball Assistant Coach Jerri Beck agreed with Reeves. "If we can extend the 28 minutes of playing well, we will be able to surprise people now—not in years to come, but this season," Beck said. Bryan Women's Basketball Head Coach Ray Burwick said that he was proud of the 28 minutes when the

team played well, but hoped they could improve to keep their energy level throughout the game.

Harrison commented that the game was not a 30-point game, but the score does not reflect well the Lady Lions' play.

With four regular season games remaining, the Lady Lions are gearing up for the end of the season tournament. Their next game is at home Saturday against Virginia Intermountain.



Lady Lions gather around Assistant Coach Jerri Beck during a game.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE RICH

Sports Box

Men's Basketball

Bryan College	103
Huntingdon College	79
(Game: Feb. 3 at Dayton, Tenn.)	

Bryan Game Leaders:

Scorers:	Beschta 30; Lien 12; Stevens, Malone 11
Rebounds:	Beattie 9; Atkins 8
Assists:	Zensen 7; Malone 4
Steals:	Malone, Braun-Duin, Atkins 2

Huntingdon Game Leaders:

Scorers:	Smith 15; Herald 13
Rebounds:	Smith, McGaughey 4
Assists:	Lassister 5

Bryan College	78
Tenn. Wesleyan	88
(Game: Feb. 8 at Dayton, Tenn.)	

Bryan Game Leaders:

Scorers:	Stevens 28; Beschta 21
Rebounds:	Lien 9; Beschta 5; Stevens 4

Assists:	Zensen 7; Wright 5
Blocks:	Lien, Stevens 2

Tenn. Wesleyan game Leaders:

Scorers:	Blanton 29; Stone 21; Montgomery 15
Rebounds:	Jefferson 9; Collier 6; Stone 5
Assists:	Blanton 6
Blocks:	Wilson 1

Women's Basketball

Bryan College	44
Tenn. Wesleyan	84
(Game: Feb. 1 at Athens, Tenn.)	

Scorers:	Hammond 13
Assists:	Hammond 5

Bryan College	73
Huntingdon College	77
(Game: Feb. 3 at Dayton, Tenn.)	

Scorers:	Dulaney 19
Assists:	Hammond 12
Rebounds:	Hill 8; Dulaney 6

Bryan College
Montreat College
(Game: Feb. 5 at Montreat)

Scorers: Cantrell 13; Hill 10
Rebounds: Hill 5; Cantrell 4

Bryan College
Tenn. Wesleyan
(Game: Feb. 8 at Dayton)

Scorers: Cantrell 10; Hill 10
Hammond, Hill 10
Rebounds: Hill, Dulaney 3
Steals: Dulaney 3

Conference Statistics

Senior guard C. currently leading the steals, averaging 4 st

Financial commitments scorched in college fire

Dear Friends of Bryan College,

How can I begin to tell you the many demonstrations of our Lord's hand on Bryan College in the past week?

I could start by celebrating the safety of our students, the faculty and staff and the renovation teams. I could rejoice in the way God spared the entire building from being lost. I could continue with describing the way our Lord is keeping spirits high, and how He allowed a clear testimony of His grace to be presented in local, regional and national media.

In fact, even as the third floor of the Ad Building burned, a student told me how he felt honored that God would find us worthy of facing such a challenge. The real battle is the spiritual battle, and God is giving Bryan a different means of *educating students to become servants of Christ to make a difference in today's world.*

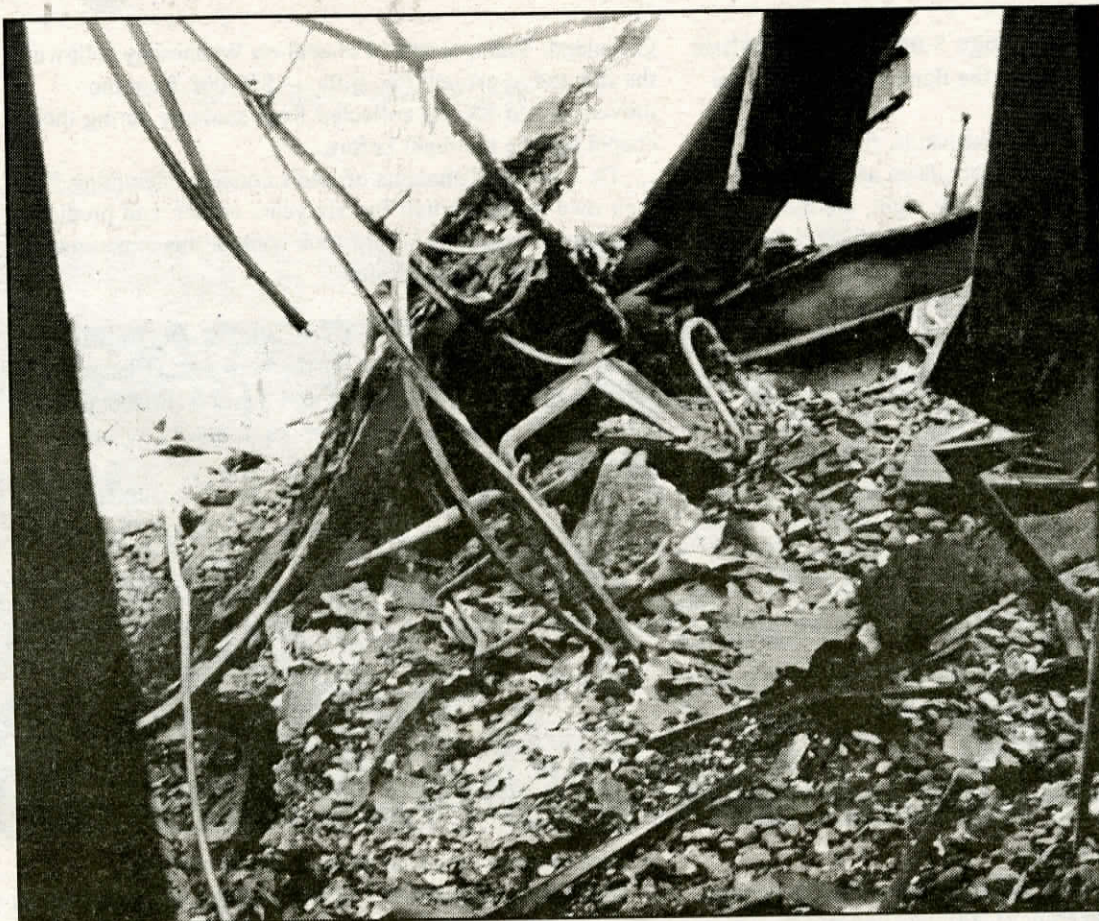
Even with these assurances of God's grace and provision, the college faces many strategic and financial challenges in the coming months.

How can I, then, describe for you the challenges ahead of us from a strategic and financial perspective?

First, we must remember that God does not "need" our gifts to accomplish His work, but instead He allows us the privilege of participating as He works.

Before the fire, we were on pace to underwrite the \$800,000 we had promised students in scholarship aid, but still had a \$400,000 balance to raise before June. I have to confess a sense of vulnerability because I have lost many of the tools I have relied on to communicate with the greater Bryan family.

Additionally, the college must address the costs of the fire's damage. Our loss is estimated at \$6 million to \$10 million. It will be several weeks before we know the specific costs to the college and our faculty and staff not covered by insurance.



All that remains of one of the third-floor classrooms is a pile of twisted steel and rubble from the roof.

Another concern is how the fire will affect student enrollment next fall. For instance, will seeing a fire-damaged Administration Building affect the way potential Presidential Scholars and their families view the college when they visit Feb. 18 and 19?

In the face of these challenges, the response from the community and other colleges has been overwhelming. One of the most touching expressions of concern came from Lee University, which lost a dormitory to fire in 1993. Lee's response to our need this past week left me in tears. The University itself responded with an unrestricted gift of \$10,000. Dr. Paul Conn, Lee's president, knows that we can

benefit most from funds with no restrictions—free to meet unanticipated special needs. In addition, Lee students gave \$3,200 in a special offering.

Will we face financial challenges in the weeks to come? Undoubtedly. Can we use your help? Absolutely. However our Lord brings the college to mind, I pray you give in worship — reveling in the opportunity He is providing to not only restore Bryan to its "basic functions," but by His grace to make the work we do even more significant for Him and His Kingdom.

Tom Kemner
Vice President for Advancement

Tom,

I'd like to help Bryan meet the challenge presented by the fire:

- ◆ Emergency Response Fund
- ◆ complete scholarship commitments
- ◆ meet unexpected needs (where needed most)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Christ Above All



BRYAN
COLLEGE

Please clip and mail to:

Bryan College
Emergency Response Fund
P.O. Box 7000
Dayton, TN 37321-7000

Community rallies to Bryan's support

Response to Bryan College's needs began while firemen were straining to douse the flames: "What can we do to help?"

From the firemen of the 12 companies fighting the blaze, from city and county officials, from area residents who gathered on the Triangle Sunday night, the message was the same: "We want to help."

Help came in the form of pizza delivered to the firemen that night, and took many forms in the days to come.

Later, as the extent of the damage became clear, area colleges, as well as Dayton City School and the Rhea County school system, offered their facilities to Bryan students.

Bryan President Dr. William E. Brown said he was contacted by presidents and officials from more than 50 colleges and universities offering support and help. "One president said, 'Whatever you ask for, the answer is 'Yes.''" he said.

Lee University President Dr. Paul Conn traveled from

Cleveland, Tenn., to attend chapel on Wednesday following the fire and to present two gifts — \$10,000 from the university and \$3,200 collected from students during their chapel service the night before.

Dr. Conn told students of Lee's concern, stemming from their own residence hall fire six years earlier, and predicted the Bryan community would look back at this experience in the years to come and rejoice.

In addition to assistance from colleges, Dr. Brown said he was particularly grateful for the help given by the City of Dayton. "City personnel again and again went above and beyond what we asked. They are continuously saying, 'Whatever you need.'"

Area restaurants and businesses sent food and snacks to the college's administration area in Brock Hall throughout the week following the fire.

Several Lee University maintenance employees, who had spent Thursday helping Bryan's maintenance staff, stopped

at a restaurant in Dayton for supper on their way home. The restaurant wouldn't accept pay for the food.

"Over and over again in the days following the fire, people of Dayton have reached out to help in many, many ways like these," Dr. Brown said. "We are so blessed to be part of such a caring, supportive community."

The fire may have been an issue for adults, but it touched the lives of Dayton-area school children as well. Tuesday, the college received a booklet of letters from a first-grade class at Rhea Central Elementary expressing their concern.

Alicia wrote, "I am sure you'r school building got hurt in the fire. I am thankful no one got hurt in the fire. But I hope that you can build it back and have a very Valentines."

Paige said, "I am sorry your school burnt down. I hope you are back at school today."

And Nikki added, "I'm sorry that your building burnt down. I'm thankful that no one was hurt."

Bryan students react to the fire

'It's brought everybody together'; 'It's our school too'

Compiled by Michael Brown

Danny Reid: freshman: "I thought I was possibly seeing the destruction of Bryan College. I think the Lord brought the school as a whole to its knees. I hope we will look for what He's trying to teach us. He is allowing this for a reason."

Ky Heinze: freshman: "This gives us an opportunity to show how Christians react. I hope, if another college goes through a similar experience, we would be as generous as (other schools) are to us."

David Dahlke: sophomore: "The most prominent thought I had was, not seeing the building go up, but to see how the students, faculty, Dr. Brown would come together. I feel like it's brought, and will continue to bring everybody together."

Dan Evans: sophomore: "Overall, the fire has given me a new respect for the faculty, especially Dr. Bill Brown and Tim Hostetler. Even in the midst of all the chaos and the millions of dollars damage that was done to the building they cared about the fact that we (Dan and several friends) had (musical) equipment in the Tower Theater and they

wanted to make sure that we were taken care of."

Jackie Bott: sophomore: "It's not as bad as I expected. I expected everything to be charred and unrecognizable. But I'm glad we have the opportunity to help because it is our school too."

Joie Stone: sophomore: "I know this situation will only bring about good here at Bryan. I feel that as everyone has pulled together to make the best of this mess, this school has become more united as a body and even closer to God. I'm once again amazed by the awesome power of God and how he uses the ugliest of situations to create beautiful outcomes."

Martha West: junior: "It was hard to see three years of classes and memories going up in flames. I am excited to see what God's going to do through this."

John Ott: junior: "While I was watching the fire I couldn't help feeling sad. After all, my school was burning. But more than that, I thought about the years of work that individuals had spent collecting the artifacts and stuff in the glass cases. It was so sad to watch people's life work go up in flames."

Angie O'Keefe: junior: "It hurt...I cried. I felt like my clubhouse was burning down. That was where I met my friends, I learned, spent most of my time."

Kimberlee Allum: senior: "A reporter asked a group of students if they would mind talking about the fire in front of the camera...somehow I was chosen. I started talking, and before it was all over I had several reporters with microphones and cameras around me. The stations reported what I said about the history of the school, and God used my opportunity to testify to how good God is to His love for us in the midst of everything going on."

Iris Griffioen: senior: "I didn't feel much beyond mesmerizing, terrifying awesomeness of the flames. It was a good reminder that this world is temporary."

Chris Bean: senior: "I was shocked. It was sad to see my school go up in flames."

Ashley Siskey: senior: "It's sad knowing I'll never have a "classroom" at Bryan College again. This tops any excitement I experienced in Hollywood last semester. This includes meeting Jay Leno."

Bryan Life
Bryan College
P.O. Box 7000
Dayton, TN 37321-7000

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